

Message Text

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ORIGIN DHA-02

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DRAFTED BY D/HA-HHEILSNIS

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P 101833Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY RANGOON PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 171462

FOLLOWING REPEATS HONG KONG 7934 ACTION SECSTATE INFO TOKYO
7 JUL 76

QUOTE UNCLAS HONG KONG 7934

FOR D/HA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES: THE SPORADIC FLOW

REF: (A) STATE 111198 (B) STATE 159782

1. LOCAL PRESS REPORTS THAT A BURMESE SHIP BOUND TO HONG KONG, TOKYO AND RANGOON WITH 99 VIETNAMESE REFUGEES PICKED UP OFF THE COAST OF VIETNAM WILL REACH HONG KONG JULY 7. THE ARRIVAL OF THESE REFUGEES AND THE PROBABILITY THAT REFUGEES WILL CONTINUE TO EMERGE FROM VIETNAM RAISE SEVERAL QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE ONGOING NATURE OF US REFUGEE ACTIVITIES.

(A) ARE THERE ANY NUMBERS FROM THE 11000 OF THE EPP CURRENTLY AVAILABLE FOR REFUGEES SUCH AS THESE WHO MAY QUALIFY UNDER CATEGORIES I-IV?

(B) AFTER JUNE 30, 1976 DOES INS/HK HAVE AUTHORITY TO APPROVE THE
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ELIGIBILITY OF REFUGEES UNDER CATEGORIES I-IV?

(C) IF INS/HK DOES NOT HAVE THIS AUTHORITY NOW, MAY THE POST
FORWARD TO THE DEPT. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPROVALS UNDER CATEGORIES
I-IV?

2. MAY THE POST CONTINUE TO FORWARD TO THE DEPT. IT RECOMMENDATIONS
ON INDIVIDUAL HUMANITARIAN CASES?

3. HENCEFORTH ARE HUMANITARIAN CASES THE ONLY ONES WHICH MAY
BE CONSIDERED?

4. IN AS MUCH AS HKG CAN BE PRESUMED TO BE MOST RELUCTANT TO
PERMIT THESE OR SUBSEQUENT REFUGEES TO LAND WITHOUT AN
ASSURANCE OF ONWARD MOVEMENT WITHIN A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME,
SHOULD THE POST AND/OR TOKYO INTERVIEW THESE REFUGEES ABOARD
SHIP TO DETERMINE IF ANY APPEAR TO QUALIFY UNDER TH FOUR
CATEGORIES OR AS SPECIAL HUMANITARIAN CASES?
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